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REMARKS

For clarity purposes only, all of the prior Claims 1-30 have been cancelled and then resubmitted as new Claims 31-60. Multiple dependencies have been removed.

New Claims 31 and 50 have been amended from corresponding cancelled Claims 1 and 20 to add "having a mean content of no more than 10 carboxylic acid diester substituents per polysaccharide molecule" to Claim 31 and "and the molar ratio of carboxylic ester to polysaccharide is not greater than 10:1" to Claim 50. Support for these amendments is found on page 10, lines 5-9 of the English specification.

Page 11 of the specification has been amended to delete a reference to antibiotics. No new matter is added by this deletion.

Information Disclosure Statement

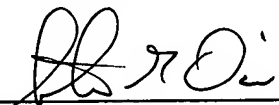
An Information Disclosure Statement (IDS) is being filed concurrently herewith. Entry of the IDS is respectfully requested.

CONCLUSION

It is believed that all claims are in condition for allowance, and it is respectfully requested that the application be passed to issue. If the Examiner feels that a telephone conference would expedite prosecution of this case, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,

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